

Pacific Northwest Regional Council of Carpenters

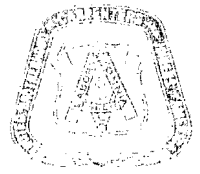
Affiliated with

United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America

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September 1, 2009

Senator Patty Murray
U.S. Senate
173 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Murray,

We were active participants with the Inland Northwest AGC at the recent ribbon cutting ceremony to open the first drivable section of the US 395 North Spokane Corridor. During the ceremony, it was announced that the next phase of the project has been submitted for a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation. These funds would complete the southbound lanes from Farwell to Freya. Should we be successful, this would allow WSDOT to open the entire section – 5.7 miles - from Freya to Wandermere in 2011.

As the only Eastern Washington project to be submitted, we are excited about what these funds could mean to our community – job creation, economic vitality and increased freight mobility. It is estimated that the \$35 million requested for construction of this “shovel-ready” project would create or save over 500 jobs and generate nearly \$70 million in economic activity.

We are asking for your support today in helping to ensure that this project is funded by the TIGER grants. Spokane has watched this project for decades, slowly gaining momentum with assistance from your office, the State of Washington, and various other members of Congress. The enthusiasm from this recent accomplishment was the spring board for our *US 395 North Spokane Corridor - Keep Spokane Moving - Let's Finish What We Started* campaign.

We look forward to your continued support and advocacy for our number one regional transportation project. An asset that benefits all modes of transportation; regional, State, national and international economic development opportunities; and improves the quality of life for those who live and visit our area.

If there is anything we can do to help support this vital transportation project, we would be more than happy to assist.

Sincerely,

Dan Hutchins
Lead Service Representative

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